Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

1. (Previously Presented) Multi-way adjustment device for adjusting a rest width of a seat, the multi-way adjustment device comprising

a mounting plate,

an adjusting part which is mounted so as to be displaceable relative to the mounting plate and is to be coupled with a rest portion of the seat, whereby the adjusting part is of an elongate design with a middle portion disposed between a first end portion and a second end portion with the first end portion having a bigger width than the middle portion, the adjusting part being mounted so as to be displaceable on the mounting plate by means of the middle portion, and

an adjusting unit for displacing the adjusting part relative to the mounting plate in a first adjustment direction and a second adjustment direction, whereby one of the first and second adjustment directions is for reducing the rest width and the other of the first and second adjustment directions is for increasing the rest width,

whereby the adjusting part is coupled with mechanical energy storage means in such a way that, when the adjusting part is displaced in the first adjustment direction relative to the mounting plate, mechanical energy is absorbed by the mechanical energy storage means, whereas a displacement of the adjusting part in the second adjustment direction relative to the mounting plate is assisted by the release of the mechanical energy previously absorbed by the mechanical energy storage means.

2. (Previously Presented) Multi-way adjustment device as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that the first adjustment direction is essentially opposite to the second adjustment direction.

3. (Previously Presented) Multi-way adjustment device as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that the adjusting unit is electro-mechanically operated.

4. (Currently Amended) Multi-way adjustment device as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that the first end portion is to be coupled with the rest portion and the second end portion is to be coupled with the mechanical energy storage means.

5. (Previously Presented) Multi-way adjustment device as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that the mechanical energy storage means are coupled on the one hand with the adjusting part and on the other hand with the mounting plate.

6. (Previously Presented) Multi-way adjustment device as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that the mechanical energy storage means has at least one resiliently elastic element which absorbs mechanical energy when the adjusting part is displaced in the first adjustment direction and releases mechanical energy when the adjusting part is adjusted in the second adjustment direction.

7. (Previously Presented) Multi-way adjustment device as claimed in claim 6, characterised in that the at least one resiliently elastic element is designed and disposed so that it is tensioned as the adjusting part is displaced in the first adjustment direction and relaxed when the adjusting part is displaced in the second adjustment direction.

8. (Previously Presented) Multi-way adjustment device as claimed in claim 5, characterised in that the mechanical energy storage means comprises two resiliently elastic elements, one of which resiliently elastic elements is disposed along a longitudinal side of the adjusting part.

9. (Previously Presented) Multi-way adjustment device as claimed in claim 4, characterised in that the mechanical energy storage means has at least one resiliently elastic element which absorbs mechanical energy when the adjusting part is displaced in the first adjustment direction and releases mechanical energy when the adjusting part is adjusted in the second adjustment direction, and in that the at least one resiliently elastic element is coupled on the one hand with the second end portion of the adjusting part and on the other hand with the mounting plate.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Previously Presented) Multi-way adjustment device as claimed in claim 1, characterised in that the second end portion has a bigger width than the middle portion.

12. (Previously Presented) Seat with a multi-way adjustment device as claimed in claim 1 for adjusting the rest portion of the seat.

13. (Previously Presented) Use of a multi-way adjustment device as claimed in claim 1 for adjusting the rest width of the seat.

14-24. (Cancelled)